STEVER JOHN J
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ACTION TRSF-00
INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 OMB-01 JUSF-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
DODE-00 H-02 /063 W
------------------019136 0417327 45

R 0416107 MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2957
UNCLAS TEL AVIV 5887
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, IS
SUBJECT: DATA FOR ANNUAL CLAIMS REPORT
REF: STATE 103865

1. A. DATE OF CLAIM - JULY 1, 1968
B. AMOUNT OF CLAIM - $7.6 MILLION
C. THIS CLAIM BY THE US GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL IS FOR COMPENSATION FOR PHYSICAL DAMAGES TO THE USS LIBERTY BY THE ARMED FORCES OF ISRAEL ON THE SHIP AS IT LAY IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS ON JUNE 8, 1967.
D. SINCE SUBMISSION OF THE LAST REPORT ON THIS CLAIM TO THE CONGRESS, US EMBASSY TEL AVIV HAS TAKEN THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS IN PURSUIT OF THIS CLAIM:
--ON FEBRUARY 21, 1978, AMBASSADOR LEWIS DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE ISRAELI MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (SEE TEL AVIV 43537).
--ON FEBRUARY 22, 1978, A DIPLOMATIC NOTE WAS PRESENTED TO THE GOI.
--ON APRIL 27, 1978, AMBASSADOR LEWIS RAISED THE MATTER WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF

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THE GOI, AHARON BARAK, TO WHOM THE MATTER HAD BEEN REFERRED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. ACCORDING TO BARAK, HE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAVE AGREED THAT AN AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE SHOULD BE MADE TO OUR NOTE OF FEBRUARY 22 AND THAT CONCURRENCE IS NOW BEING SOUGHT FROM THE MINISTRIES OF DEFENSE AND FINANCE TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIM WITH US.

2. THE EMBASSY WILL CONTINUED TO PURSUE THE MATTER AND IS OPTIMISTIC THAT FURTHER PROGRESS WILL BE MADE BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT'S REPORT TO THE CONGRESS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1978. WE WILL UPDATE THIS REPORT ACCORDINGLY.

3. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED A COPY OF THE 1977 REPORT AS MENTIONED IN PARA 2 OF REFTEL.

LEWIS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY ACwood DATE 04/26/82
XDS ☐ or XD ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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